The Path of Eightfold Wisdom

Before the heavens, before the creeds,
When men sought gods to fill their needs,
The Buddha walked with silent grace,
To free the world, to end the chase.

No hand of fate, no wrathful lord,
No sacred script, no binding sword,
But truths revealed in simple word—
A path to walk, by hearts unheard.

Four Noble Truths, the root, the ground,
Where suffering's cause and end are found.
Its seeds of pain, our grasp, our thirst,
The flames of craving, bound and cursed.

But see! He spoke of steps so clear,
A way to still both doubt and fear.
The Eightfold Path, a guiding flame,
To free the heart, to still the blame.

Right View to see what's real and plain,
That life is fleeting, joy and pain.
Right Thought to plant intentions pure,
To tame the mind, to make it sure.

Right Speech, the words that heal and bind,
Not harsh, not false, but gentle, kind.
Right Action: deeds of peace to sow,
No harm, no theft, no cause for woe.

Right Livelihood, a noble trade,
Where virtue's price is never weighed.
Right Effort, steadfast, calm, and clear,
To turn the wheel and hold it near.

Right Mindfulness, the watchful gate,
To see each thought before it's late.
Right Concentration, steady, still,
The mind unshaken, bound by will.

These steps, no dogma to obey,
But tools to guide, a quiet way.
Not prayers, not fear, not blind belief,
But wisdom's path to end all grief.

No heavens high, no fires below,
No promise made, no debt to owe.
For nibbāna, cool and pure as rain,
Extinguishes both self and pain.

A mortal man, the Buddha taught,
Not god or king, no creed he brought.
He saw the path, he marked it plain,
For all to walk and break the chain.

Oh seeker, heed the Eightfold Way,
It leads beyond the night, the day.
To see the truth, to wake, to know,
To still the fire, to let it go.

The world may preach of faith and fate,
Of distant gods who judge and wait.
But here, in steps, the Path is clear,
The ending of all death and fear.

So, walk, with eyes awake and kind,
The Eightfold Path of heart and mind.
A timeless way, no chains, no bind,
The light of freedom, all may find.